



151



ABSOLUTE POWER TIE-IN

BATMAN



A
BAT/CAT
CAT-ASTROPHE!

ZDARSKY
HAWTHORNE
DI BENEDETTO
FAJARDO JR.

ALSO FEATURING
HARLEY QUINN
HOWARD • IGNAZZI • NIRO

13+
TEEN

THE BESTSELLING HORROR SERIES RETURNS
FOR A **BLOOD-SOAKED** NEW CHAPTER!



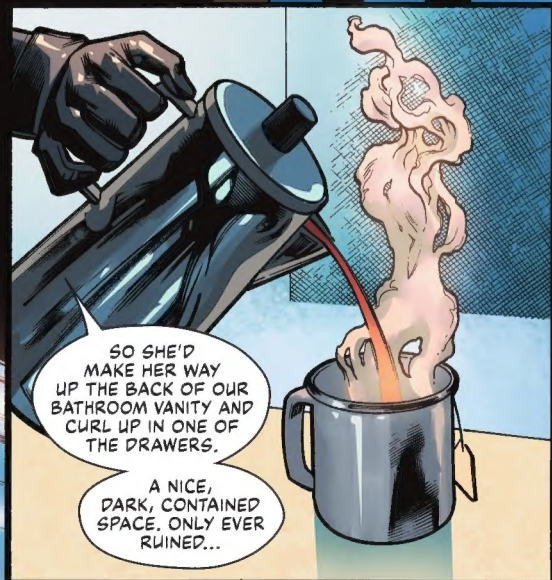
Written by
**MATTHEW
ROSENBERG**

Art by
**OTTO
SCHMIDT**

12 ISSUES | AUGUST

HEROES YOU KNOW
WORLDS YOU DON'T





"IT'S CALLED A **MOTHER BOX**. AN ALIEN SUPERCOMPUTER OF IMMENSE POWER.



"AND IT'S NORTH OF WALLER'S BASE OF **GAMORRA**, HIDDEN ON THE ISLAND OF **OKINAWA**."

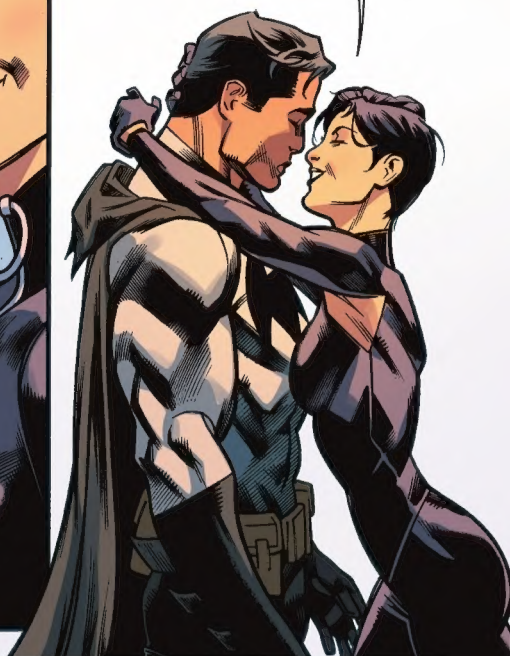


IT'S A
HEIST THAT COULD
SAVE EVERYONE.
I NEED
YOU FOR
THIS.



OH PLEASE.
BATMAN
DOESN'T NEED
ANYONE.
BRUCE,
ON THE OTHER
HAND...

THE WORLD
MAY BE ENDING
AND IT'S MY FAULT,
SELINA...
THAT'S NOT
TRUE. WE'LL TAKE
CARE OF THIS.
WHAT'S
THE PLAN?
UNDERCOVER.



"FORGED
IDENTITIES.

"WE WORK FOR
SENTRYGLOBE, PRIVATE
MILITARY CONTRACTORS."

MR.
BLACKWELL...



...WELCOME
TO OKINAWA,
SIR, DO YOU
NEED TO SETTLE
IN OFF BASE,
OR--

NO TIME
TO WASTE,
SOLDIER. TAKE
US TO THE
GENERAL.

"IF WE PLAY IT
RIGHT, THERE'LL BE
NO RESISTANCE.

"IF WE
DON'T..."

"...IT COULD BE
SUICIDE."

AMANDA WALLER HAS WON. A PLANETWIDE BLITZKRIEG HAS ROBBED THE WORLD'S METAHUMANS OF THEIR SUPERPOWERS AND RESOURCES. THOSE FEW WHO HAVE THUS FAR EVADED CAPTURE ARE FUGITIVES ON THE RUN, HUNTED MERCILESSLY BY TASK FORCE VII, A REGIMENT OF UNSTOPPABLE AMAZONS BUILT BY WALLER'S ALLIES, FAIRSAFE AND THE BRAINIAC QUEEN. THE RESISTANCE HAS FORMED AND BATMAN HAS BEEN TASKED WITH A MISSION: TO RETRIEVE A POWERFUL MOTHER BOX FROM WALLER'S SECRET LAIR...

ABSOLUTE POWER

INTO THE UNKNOWN

CHIP ZDARSKY *writer* • MIKE HAWTHORNE *penciller* • ADRIANO DI BENEDETTO *inks*
ROMULO FAJARDO JR. *colorist* • CLAYTON COWLES *letterer* • SALVADOR LARROCA & MATT HERMS *cover artists*
GUILLEM MARCH; JILL THOMPSON; JAMES HARRAN; STEVAN SUBIC *variant cover artists*
KATIE KUBERT *editor* • BATMAN *created by* BOB KANE *with* BILL FINGER



GENERAL MILNON. APOLOGIES FOR THE DELAY--

UNDERSTOOD, SON...



...YOU'RE STILL PRIVATE MILITARY AFTER ALL.

AND WHO'S THIS...?



MS. TESSWORTH. MY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT.

ANYTHING YOU SAY TO ME CAN BE SAID TO HER.

A PLEASURE, GENERAL.

HMPH. THAT MAY BE THE CASE...



...BUT THIS IS **HIGHLY CLASSIFIED**.

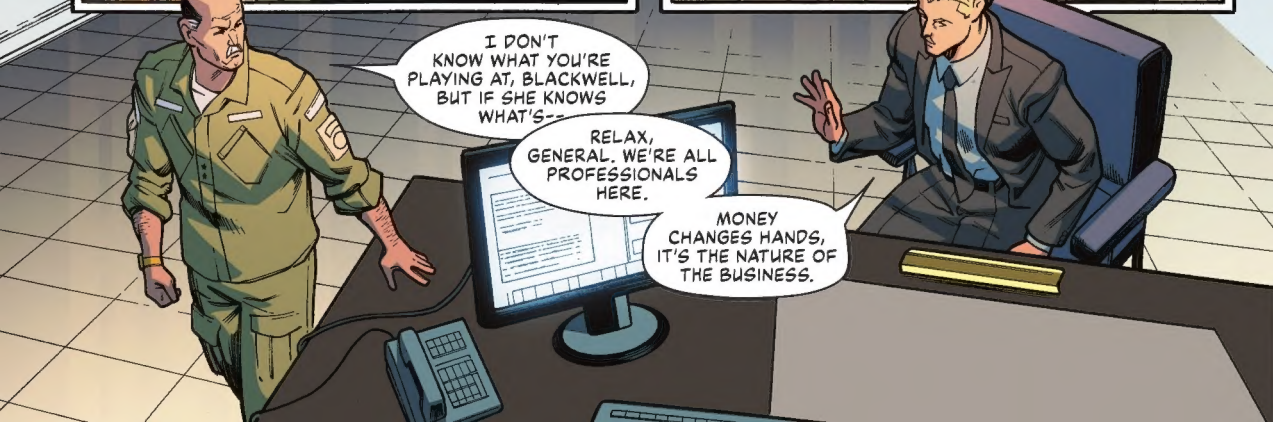
OFFICER? ESCORT MS. TESSWORTH TO THE MESS HALL AND GET HER WHATEVER SHE'D LIKE.

YES, SIR!



APOLOGIES, JANICE. WE WON'T BE LONG.

I CAN ENTERTAIN MYSELF. TAKE THIS IN CASE YOU NEED ANYTHING.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE PLAYING AT, BLACKWELL, BUT IF SHE KNOWS WHAT'S--

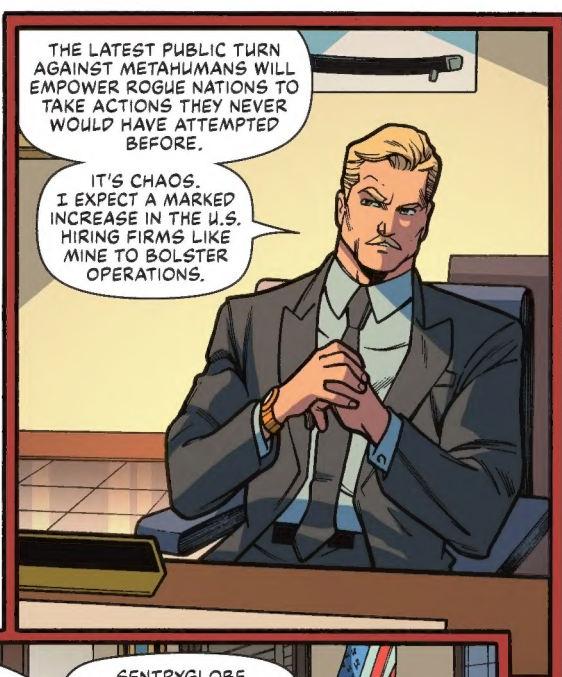
RELAX, GENERAL. WE'RE ALL PROFESSIONALS HERE.

MONEY CHANGES HANDS, IT'S THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS.



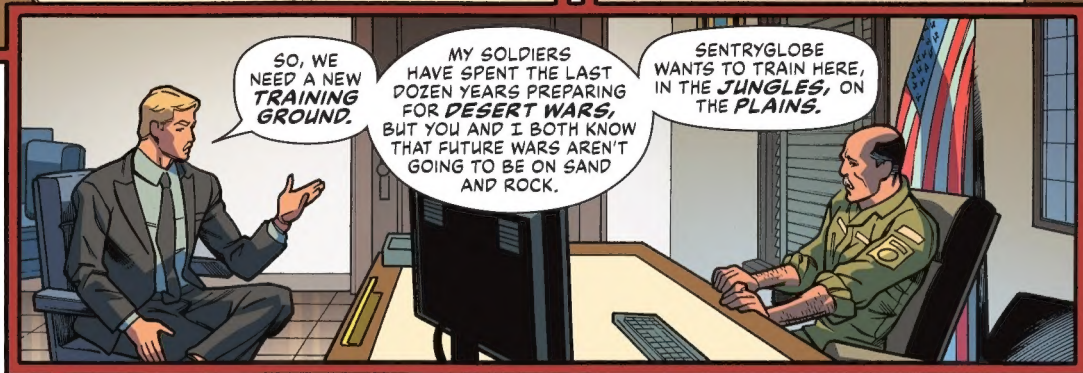
YOU'VE PURCHASED A **MEETING** WITH ME, NOTHING MORE.

WHAT DOES SENTRYGLOBE WANT WITH OKINAWA?



THE LATEST PUBLIC TURN AGAINST METAHUMANS WILL EMPOWER ROGUE NATIONS TO TAKE ACTIONS THEY NEVER WOULD HAVE ATTEMPTED BEFORE.

IT'S CHAOS. I EXPECT A MARKED INCREASE IN THE U.S. HIRING FIRMS LIKE MINE TO BOLSTER OPERATIONS.



SO, WE NEED A NEW **TRAINING GROUND.**

MY SOLDIERS HAVE SPENT THE LAST DOZEN YEARS PREPARING FOR **DESERT WARS**, BUT YOU AND I BOTH KNOW THAT FUTURE WARS AREN'T GOING TO BE ON SAND AND ROCK.

SENTRYGLOBE WANTS TO TRAIN HERE, IN THE **JUNGLES**, ON THE **PLAINS.**



WE'LL NEED A SECTION OF THE ISLAND WHERE WE CAN BE RELATIVELY HIDDEN, SOMETHING CONTROLLED BY THE U.S., BUT A LITTLE MORE "OFF-BOOK."

...THERE'S ALSO **FOUR MILLION** PUT ASIDE FOR A **POINT PERSON...**

OF COURSE WE'LL PAY WHATEVER THE GOVERNMENT REQUIRES, **BUT...**

...SOMEONE TO GREASE THE WHEELS AND TELL THEIR SUPERIORS HOW MUCH THEY SUPPORT OUR PLAN.

I SUPPOSE I COULD BE THAT PERSON.



Just as Bruce figured. Now I can move freely around the base.

Waller would have built something to protect the **Mother Box**...

...something not on the base proper, but more than likely still within U.S.-controlled areas.

I could try to hack into their system, see if there's any record of a remote base...

...but Waller is too smart for that.

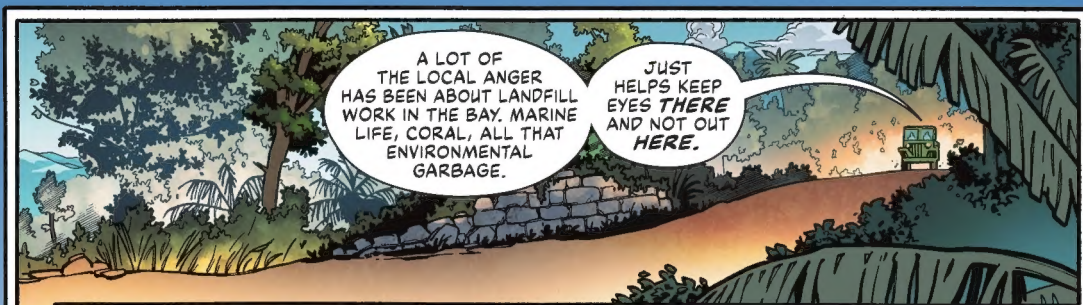
She's sent her "**Suicide Squad**" goons here, so...

...they must be here to protect it.

This wasn't complicated at all.

Just a simple trail 'n' snatch.

Maybe you'll even catch up, Bruce.



A LOT OF THE LOCAL ANGER HAS BEEN ABOUT LANDFILL WORK IN THE BAY. MARINE LIFE, CORAL, ALL THAT ENVIRONMENTAL GARBAGE.

JUST HELPS KEEP EYES *THERE* AND NOT OUT *HERE*.



WE DON'T TEND TO RUN EXERCISES THIS FAR OUT, SO IT'LL BE PERFECT FOR YOUR PEOPLE.

THIS IS WHERE WE HIDE THINGS SO THEY *STAY* HIDDEN. WELL AWAY FROM THE LOCALS AND PRYING EYES.

ARE THERE ANY FACILITIES OUT HERE? OR IS IT JUST THE LAND?



BUILT A *BUNKER BASE* A FEW YEARS AGO-- REAL BACK-CHANNEL SPOT.

BUT I'M AFRAID THERE'S NO AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT'LL GET YOU USE OF THAT.

THEN I JUST GUESS...



...I'LL HAVE TO TRY SOMETHING *ELSE*.





It's not a competition...



...but it would be just divine to wrap this up before Bruce even gets off that base.



YOU SURE THIS IS THE SPOT, **CLOCK KING**?

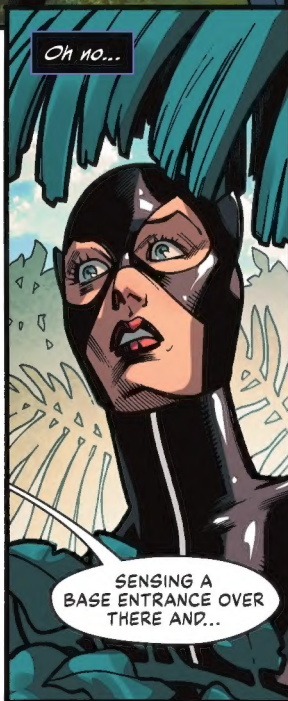
IT IS THE SPOT AND IT IS THE TIME, **DEADEYE**.

PERHAPS **YOUNG BLACK ALICE** CAN WORK OUT THE EXACT LOCATION...



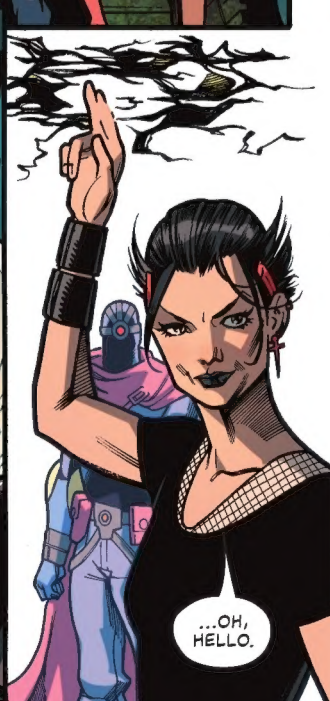
PFFT, YOU MORONS WOULD BE LOST WITHOUT ME...

A magic user? But Bruce told me all of them were cut off from using--

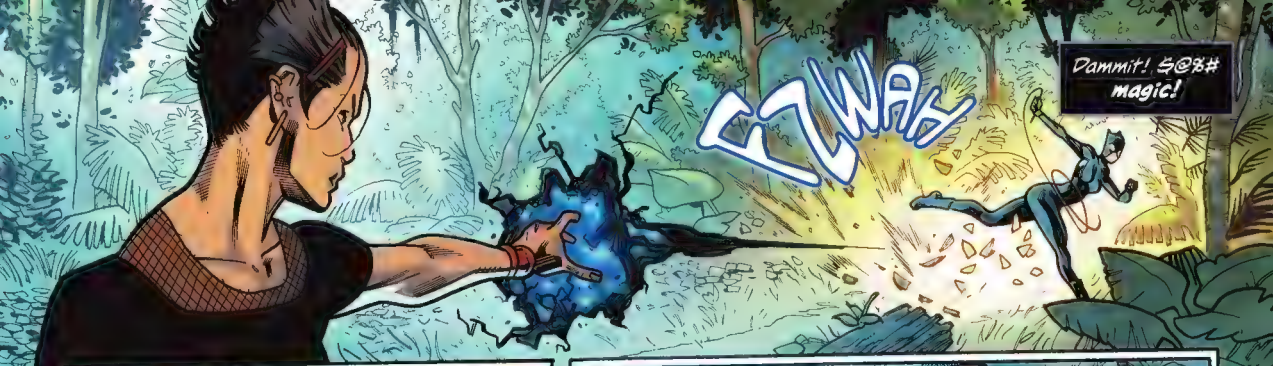


Oh no...

SENSING A BASE ENTRANCE OVER THERE AND...



...OH, HELLO.



Dammit! @%# magic!



Take the kid out first--

YAH!



UNFORTUNATE. WE STILL HAVE 49 SECONDS BEFORE HE SHOULD BE JOINING US.

DON'T NEED THAT CREEP.



NGH!



LONG WAY FROM HOME.

NHH... WHICH ONE ARE YOU AGAIN?

DEADSHOT? DEATHSTROKE?



KITTY-CAT, I'M JUST THE GUY WHO PUT A BULLET IN YOUR--



CATWOMAN!

BANG



BANG BANG

FIND THE
BASE!



I--I--29
SECONDS--

COUNTING IS
A REALLY #&@%&#
SUPERPOWER.



HNPH!



OKAY. A 2022
DELTA-X.



EASY.

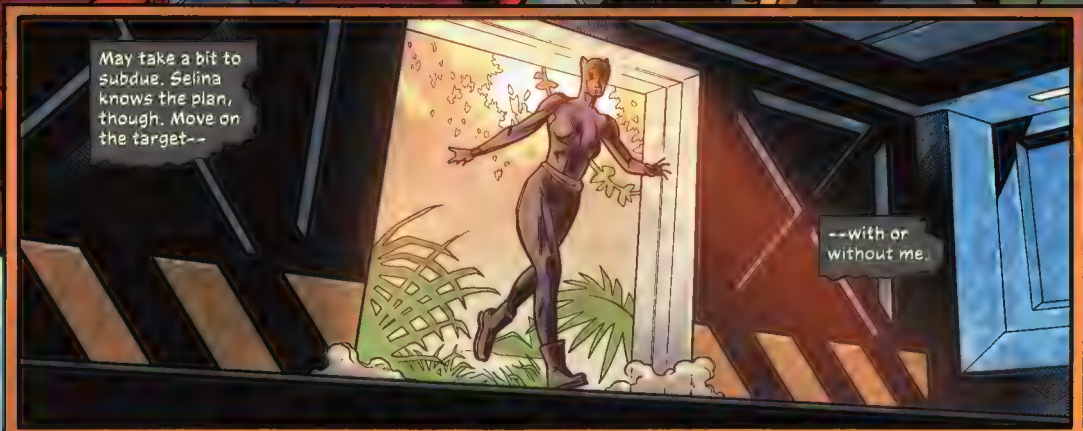
"BOSS TOLD
US TO EXPECT
TROUBLE--"



--BUT
A **LEATHER**
COUPLE WITHOUT
POWERS DOESN'T
SEEM TOO
BAD.

Deadeye. New Waller
recruit. Her nephew,
according to Batwing.

Knows how to
fight. Psychically
charged strikes.



May take a bit to
subdue. Selina
knows the plan,
though. Move on
the target--

--with or
without me.



HNF!

Got him. But
it's not over.

FOUR
SECONDS...

...TWO...

Dammit.

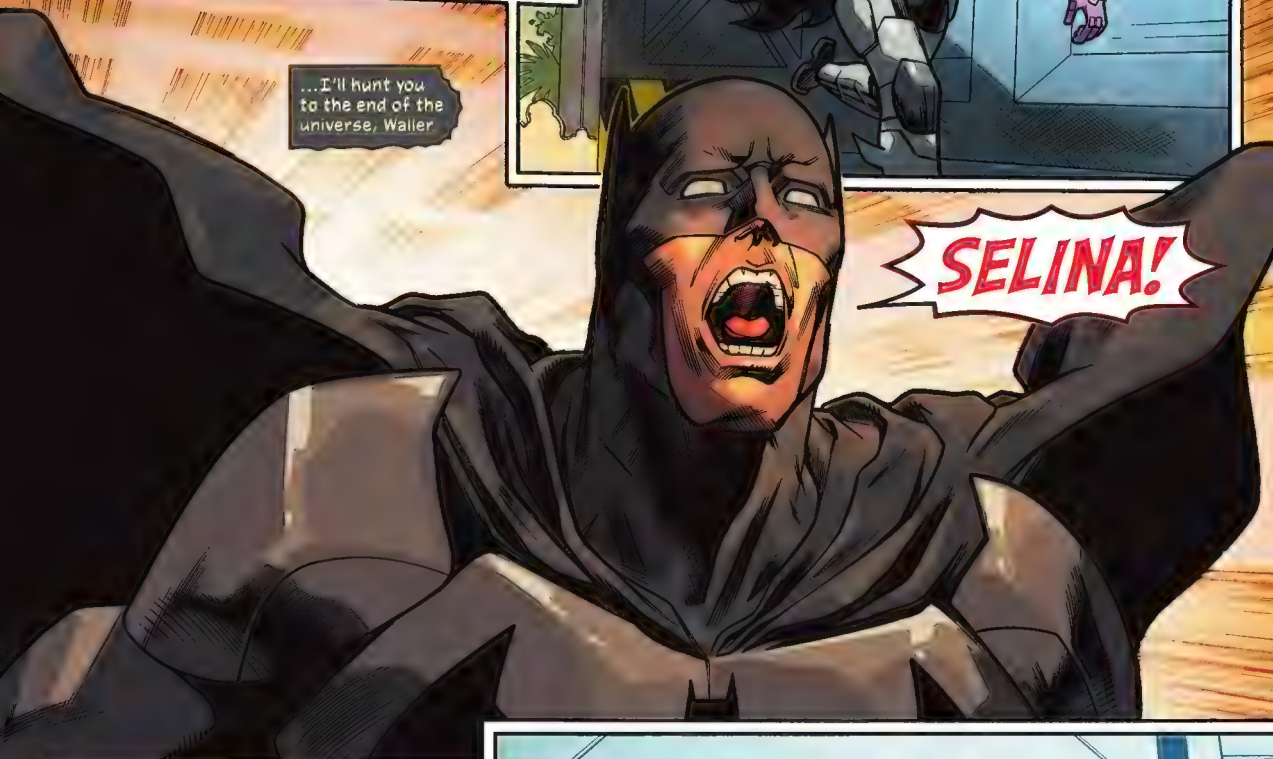


Bi-ZARO
AM HAPPY TO
MEET YOU...









...IT'S
A **BOOM**
TUBE.

A
WHAT?

A MEANS OF
TELEPORTATION
CREATED BY A
MOTHER BOX.

THE SLIGHT
ENERGY **CYBORG** WAS
DETECTING...*

*SEE LAST ISSUE!

...IT'S COMING
THROUGH
THE
BOOM TUBE.

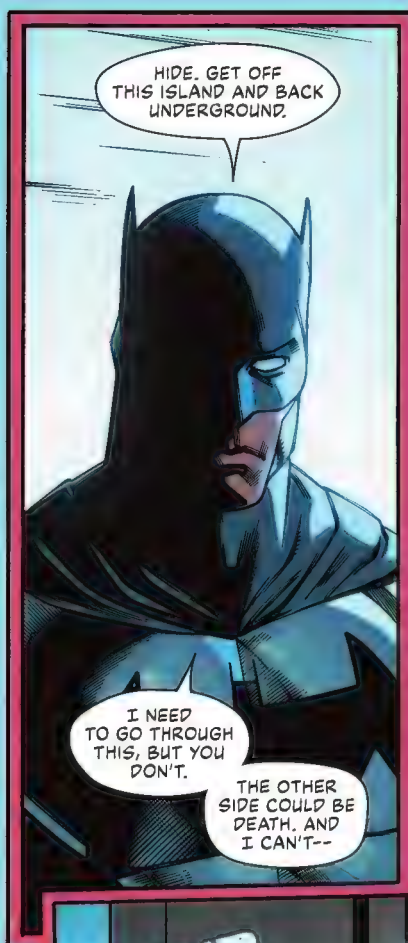
THE BOX
IS SOMEWHERE
ELSE.

WHERE?

I DON'T
KNOW. IT COULD
LITERALLY BE
ANYWHERE IN THE
UNIVERSE.

THE BOTTOM
OF AN OCEAN, THE
MIDDLE OF OUTER
SPACE...

SELINA.





UM,
OKAY.

IS THIS A...
TOMB?

THAT'S GOOD
NEWS. MEANS WE'RE
PROBABLY STILL
ON EARTH. OXYGEN
LEVELS INDICATE
IT AS WELL.

AND NOW
FOR...



...HUH. THE MOTHER
BOX IS SEALED
AWAY.

ITS CASE
SEEMS TO
BE HIDING THE
MAJORITY OF
ITS ENERGY
SIGNATURE.



LOOKS MORE
SECURE THAN IT IS.
I SHOULD BE ABLE
TO CRACK IT IN A
COUPLE OF
MINUTES.

OKAY, HURRY.
WE NEED TO SHUT
THIS DOWN BEFORE
THE OTHERS GET
THROUGH. I...

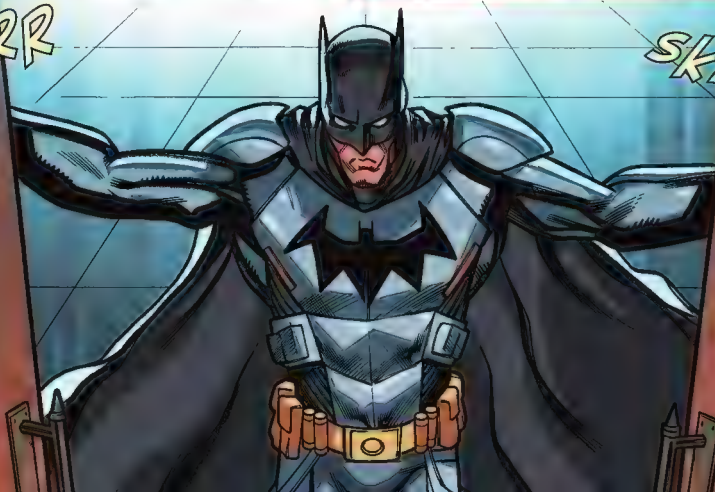


... "WALLER"? THIS IS...
IT'S AMANDA WALLER'S
FAMILY TOMB.

SHE'S FROM
CHICAGO. ARE
WE...?

SKRRRR

SKRRRR



We are
not.

This isn't Earth.

Waller cut off all possible routes from our planet, so of course she'd use the Mother Box as her own personal escape hatch.

I didn't take her for *sentimental*, though. Moving her deceased family to...where, exactly?

A force field.
To protect the Mother Box?

THINK I'VE ALMOST GOT IT, YOU GET A BEAD ON WHERE WE ARE, EXACTLY?

WORKING ON IT...

HMM. THIS DEVICE IS TRICKIER THAN I THOUGHT...

DEFINITELY NOT OUR SOLAR SYSTEM, BASED ON THE STAR CONFIGURATIONS.

WAIT. I SEE AN ANIMAL OF SOME SORT. ITS MARKINGS...

IT'S A *CZARNIAN WOLF*. MY GOD, SELINA...

...WE'RE ON *CZARNIA*. A PLANET WHERE EVERYONE WAS MURDERED BY ITS LAST INHABITANT, THE BOUNTY HUNTER *LOBO*.

IS WALLER HOPING TO MAKE THIS HER HOME IF--

BRUCE! SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG! THE--THE CASE, IT'S--

...I TRIPPED SOMETHING. IT'S COUNTING DOWN!

CAN YOU STILL STOP IT? WE HAVE TO--



BEEN
A WHILE,
BATMAN.

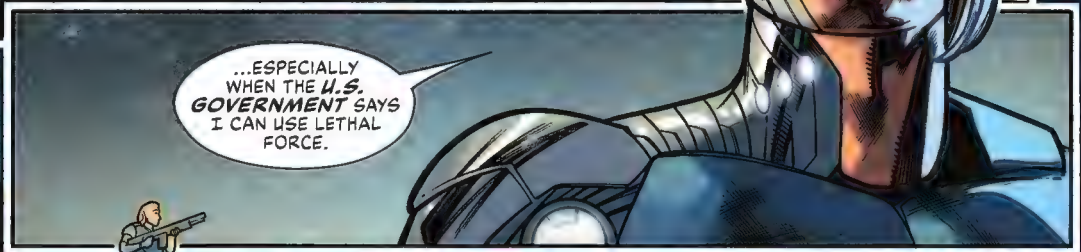
SINCE I
DRAGGED YOU
THROUGH THE
STREETS OF
GOTHAM.*

*SEE BATMAN #89!



Gunsmith.
A lackey of
Waller's...
need to--

EASY
GIG BEING
A SECURITY
GUARD...



...ESPECIALLY
WHEN THE U.S.
GOVERNMENT SAYS
I CAN USE LETHAL
FORCE.





TO BE CONTINUED!

Average night
in Gotham

Lemme catch ya up:
Batman and mosta the
goody-goodys are off
resistance-ing against
Amanda Waller*

--so Gotham City's in full
substitute teacher mode.
Wish I could say I was there
to put a stop to it, but when it
comes to the irresistible rush
of a *battle royale*?

"ABSOLUTE POWER PLANT!"

TINI HOWARD WRITER
MARIANNA IGNAZZI ARTIST
GIOVANNA NIRO COLORIST
CLAYTON COWLES LETTERER
KATIE KUBERT EDITOR

*CHECK OUT ABSOLUTE POWER FOR ALL THE GOODS!

I ain't no better
than these guys.

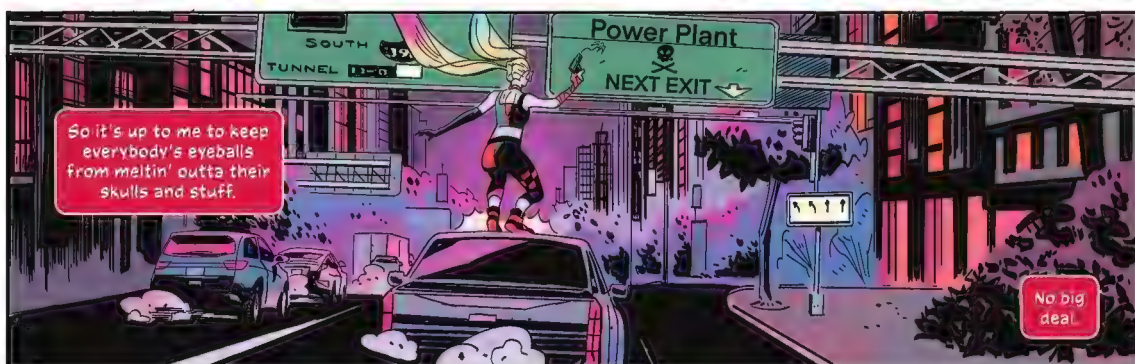
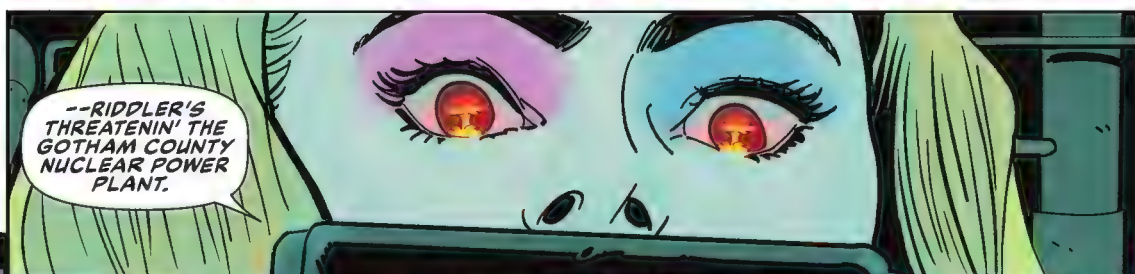
WHUP

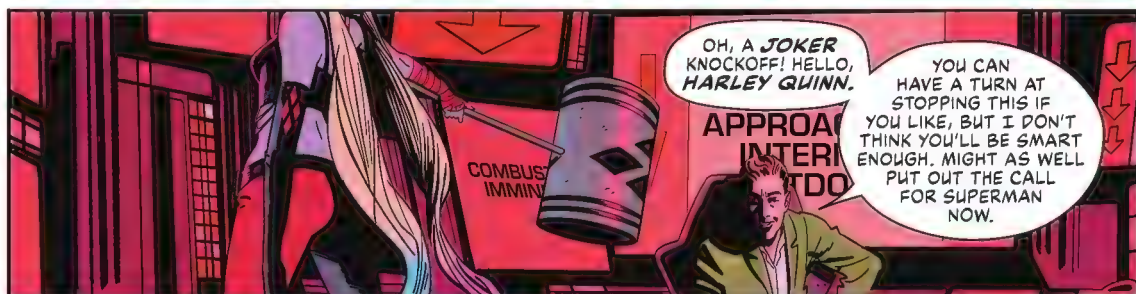
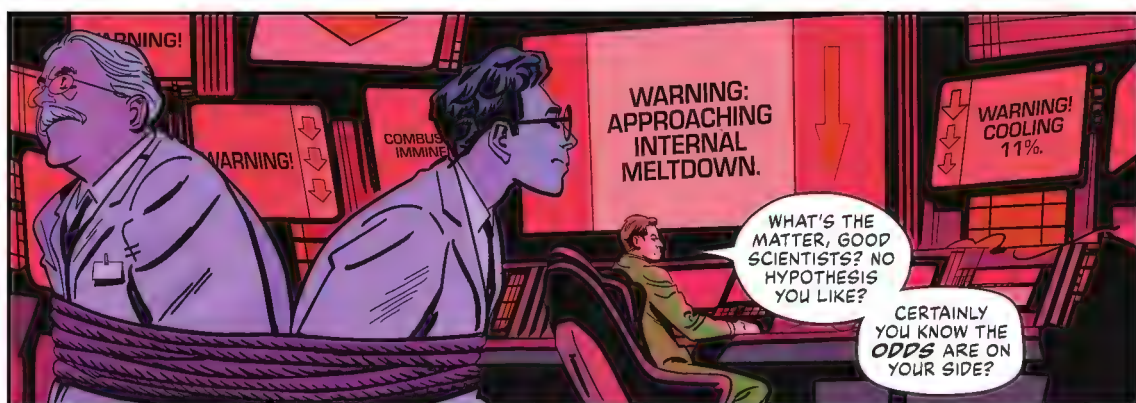
HAH!

GCPD has
citizens on
lockdown for
their own
safety.

The rogues with
superpowers are all
underground, hidin' out
lest they be snatched
up by a Waller-bot.

Some a' them are
helpin' in their own
way--keeping their
feelers out in case
Waller's *war on
superterror*
hits home.







LEMME
'SPLAIN SOMETHIN'
TO YA.

ALL YER
INSURANCE PLANS?
THE ONES THAT CAN RUN
FASTER'N A SPEEDING
BULLET AND THROW
A **BOMB** INTO
THE HARBOR?

THEY'RE
BENCHED.
ALLA THEM.

SURELY
ONE--

NOPE.

WARN



THE ONLY ONE THAT
GOT THE **MESSAGE**
AND HAS THE **TIME** AN'
DESIRE TA KEEP THIS
PLACE FROM MELTIN' INTO
A GLOWIN' CRATER
IS **ME**.

THEN HOW'D
YOU GET THE
MESSAGE?

FOUND AN
OLD BAT-SCANNER
IN THE SEWER.



OH
GOD.

DON'T
PANIC!

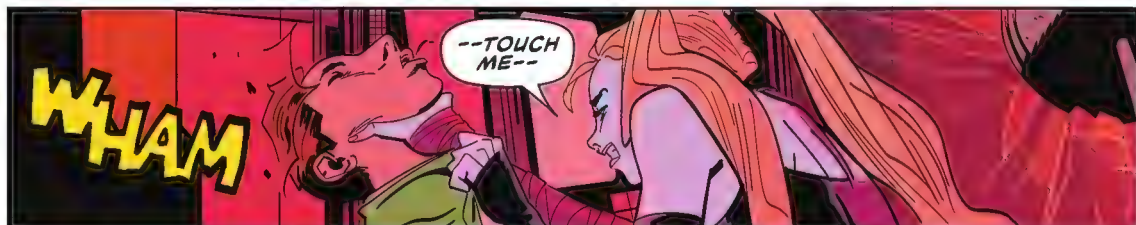
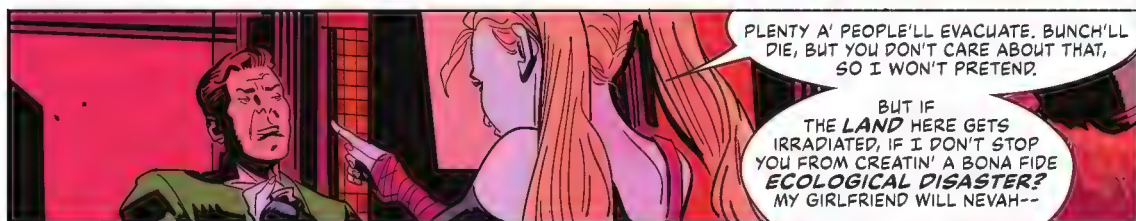


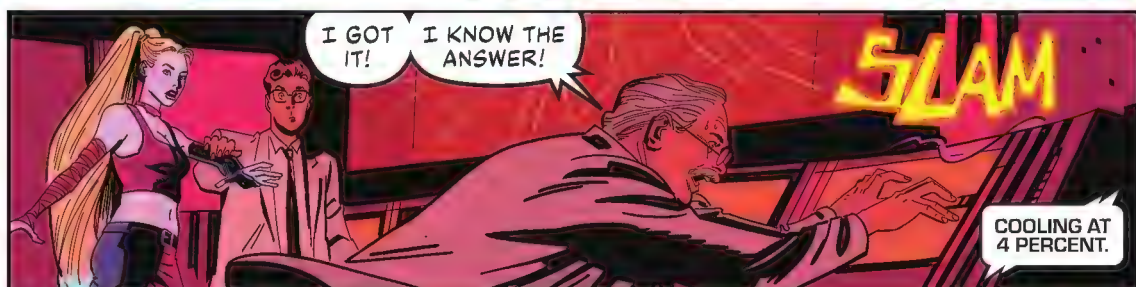
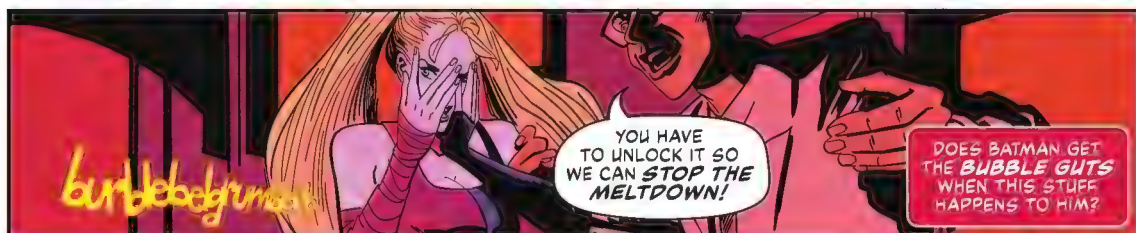
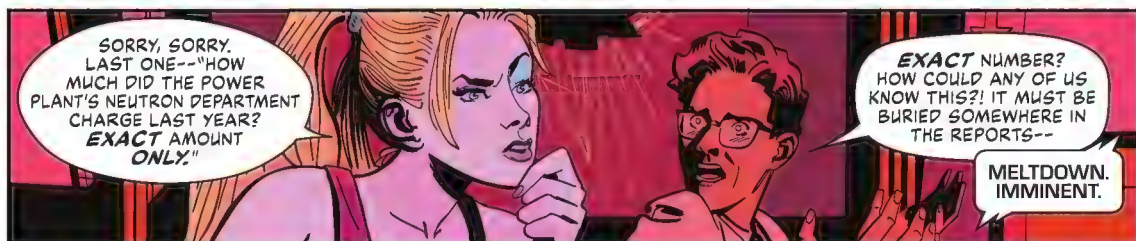
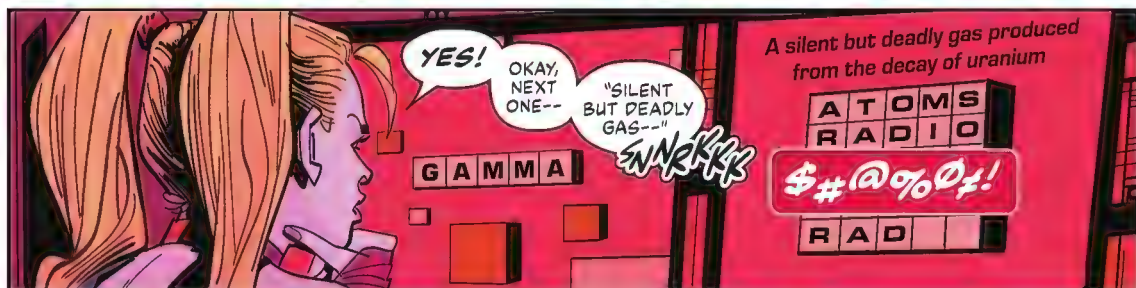
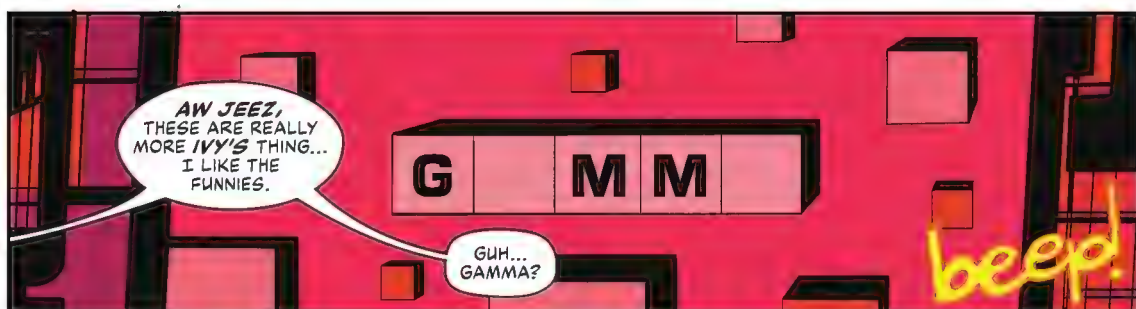
JUST PUT
THE ANSWERS
IN TO UNLOCK IT
SO THESE GUYS
CAN STOP THE
MELTDOWN.

...

WHAT'S YER
PROBLEM?!

IT'S NOT
THAT HARD,
HARLEY.



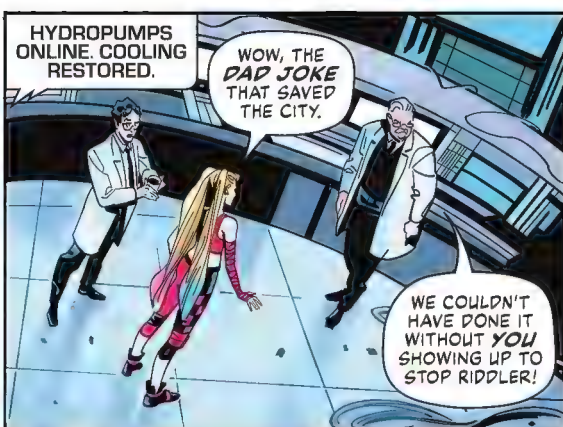




I'M **IN!**
COMING BACK
ONLINE--

ZERO?!
HOW'D
YOU KNOW
THAT?

IT WAS
THE WORD
CHARGE.
NEUTRONS DON'T
HAVE A
CHARGE!



HYDROPUMPS
ONLINE. COOLING
RESTORED.

WOW, THE
DAD JOKE
THAT SAVED
THE CITY.

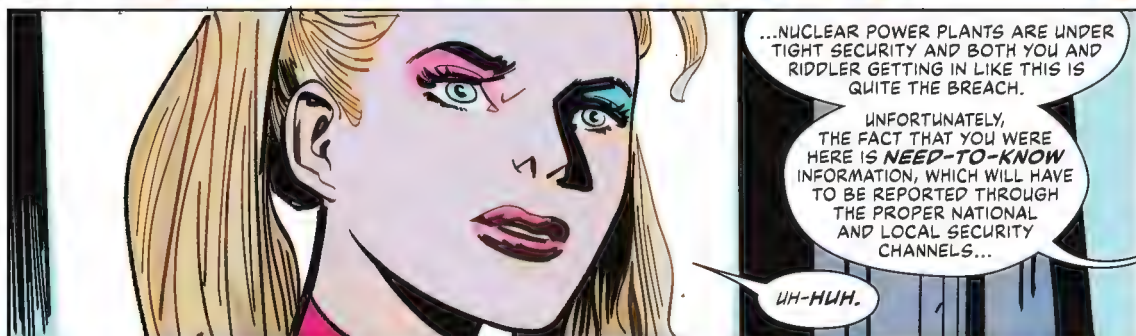
WE COULDN'T
HAVE DONE IT
WITHOUT **YOU**
SHOWING UP TO
STOP RIDDLER!



THANK YOU, HARLEY
QUINN!

YOU GONNA
TELL EVERYONE
I SAVED THE
CITY?

OH, WE
CAN'T...



...NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS ARE UNDER
TIGHT SECURITY AND BOTH YOU AND
RIDDLER GETTING IN LIKE THIS IS
QUITE THE BREACH.

UNFORTUNATELY,
THE FACT THAT YOU WERE
HERE IS **NEED-TO-KNOW**
INFORMATION, WHICH WILL HAVE
TO BE REPORTED THROUGH
THE PROPER NATIONAL
AND LOCAL SECURITY
CHANNELS...

UH-HUH.



LATER.

--AND THEN
I HAD TO SIGN AN
NDA! FOR **SAVIN'**
THE WHOLE CITY!
I CAN'T TELL
ANYONE, NOT EVEN
BATMAN!

THANK YOU,
AND I'M PROUD
OF YOU. FOR THAT,
AND FOR NOT BRAWLING
IN THE STREET WITH
ALL OF THOSE
OTHER IDIOTS.



ABOUT
THAT...

I DON'T
WANT TO
KNOW.

SMACK!

**MORE
ABSOLUTE POWER
NEXT MONTH!**

DC VAMPIRES: WORLD WAR V

MATTHEW ROSENBERG WRITER

OTTO SCHMIDT ARTIST

PIERLUIGI CASOLINO COLORS

TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS

LIAR!
YOU'VE NEVER
MET WONDER
WOMAN.

I DID.
SHE CAME
TO STAR CITY
EARLY IN THE
WAR--

WHOA!

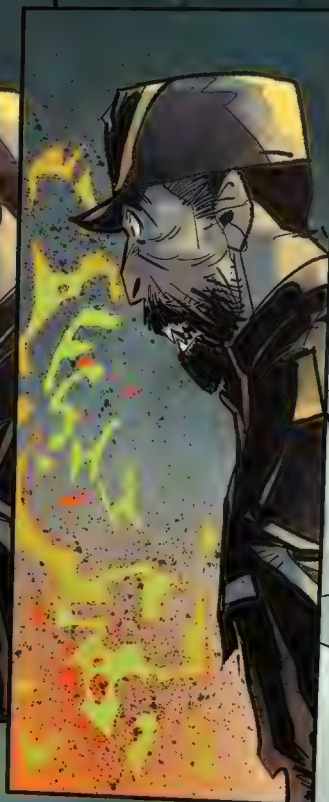
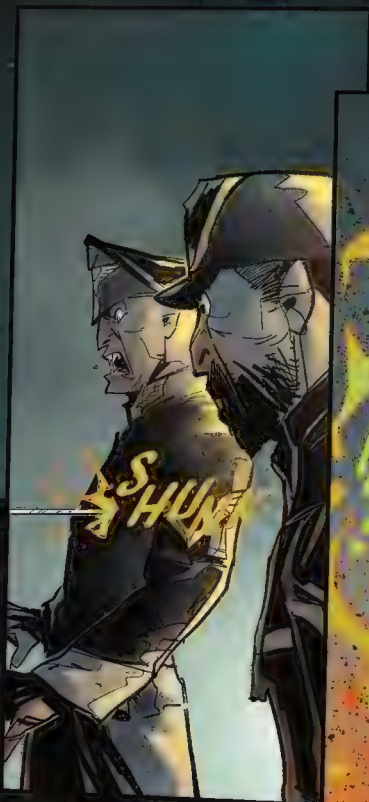
I NEED FOUR MEN
CLEARING THIS RIGHT
NOW. IF WE'RE EVEN
A MINUTE LATE WITH
THIS CARGO, YOU'LL
BE SPEAKING TO
THE QUEEN
HERSELF.

THE REST
OF YOU FORM A
PERIMETER.

HUMANS
WOULDN'T DARE
ATTACK US
THIS CLOSE TO
GOTHAM.

PROBABLY
NOT. BUT I DON'T
WANT TO TAKE
ANY--

PREVIEW



PREVIEW



YOU
MIGHT AS
WELL FIGHT AS
HARD AS YOU
CAN.

WE
WILL NOT
BE ACCEPTING
PRISONERS AT
THIS TIME.

DAMIAN!

HE'S
GETTING
AWAY.

I SEE
HIM.

YOU'RE
RUNNING?
I REMEMBER
WHEN YOU ALL
FOUGHT TO
THE END.

THAT
WAS MORE
FUN.

PREVIEW



PREVIEW



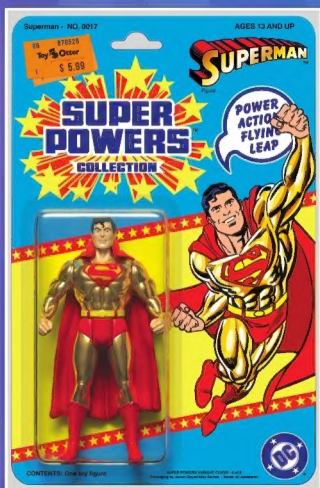
PREVIEW

YOUR FAVORITE HEROES IN MINT CONDITION!

Collect all eight DC Super Powers variant covers
by Jason Geyer and Alex Saviuk!



BATMAN #151



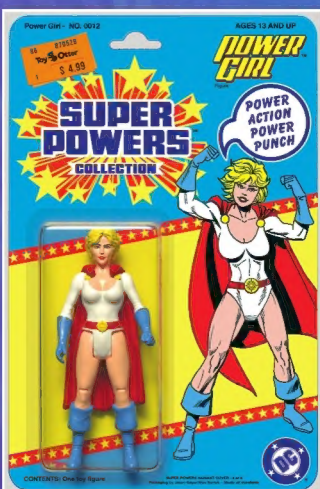
SUPERMAN #17



NIGHTWING #117



GOTHAM CITY SIRENS #1



POWER GIRL #12



THE FLASH #12



TITANS #14



GREEN LANTERN:
WAR JOURNAL #12



DC vs. VAMPIRES: WORLD WAR V

INTERVIEW WITH MATTHEW ROSENBERG

The smash-hit series returns as a fragile truce between the human resistance and the vampire queen has been established. But one variable remains! Damian Wayne and his guerrilla fighters are still battling for a better world against the bloodthirsty hordes. Can peace exist or is a world war on the horizon? DC Nation sat down with series writer Matthew Rosenberg to sink our teeth into this new installment.

How does *DC vs. Vampires: World War V* pick up after the events of the first *DC vs. Vampires* series?

Humanity suffered some horrific losses in the previous series, but there were some sparks of hope in the end. Humans and vampires have a fragile peace agreement, with parties from both sides threatening to shatter it before anyone can truly rebuild. When the *World War V* story begins we're about six months into this new status quo. It's cold, dark, and the whole world could be plunged into a war again at any moment. It's fun!

What has it been like to now have the *DC vs. Vampires* universe officially be a part of the Elseworlds relaunch?

Being part of the Elseworlds line is honestly such an honor. I grew up on books like *Batman: Gotham by Gaslight*, *Superman: Red Son*, *Kingdom Come*, *JLA: The Nail*, and so many more. One thing I've always loved about DC and the fandom is their willingness to embrace the wildest idea. It's the kind of adventurous storytelling that got me into comics. I hope we are living up to the legacy with *DC vs. Vampires*.

Are any new DC heroes or villains making their *DC vs. Vampires* universe debut in this series?

We've been keeping it a secret, but we might as well reveal it now. The most requested character was, no surprise, Killer Moth! And I'm happy to say Killer Moth will be in the series in a big way! So all you moth-heads get your preorders in at your local comics shop now. We're also adding new heroes and villains. Some big guns from the Justice League will be showing up. Plus, fan favorites like the Atom, Hush, Beast Boy, Bat-Mite, and more. Then there are rumors of Green Lantern and Batman coming back, but that would be crazy. However, there may be a few big surprises for those who are patient.

It's exciting for fans to see Otto Schmidt returning on art! What is he bringing to this new series?

Otto is the heart and soul of the series. He breathes life into these characters (even the undead ones) in a way no other artist can. The world feels real and lived-in and you feel the weight of this war on all the characters. I wouldn't trust anyone else to handle this story with the grace he brings.



**DON'T MISS
DC vs. VAMPIRES:
WORLD WAR V #1,
ON SALE THIS AUGUST!**

The Last Kryptonian-DCP

